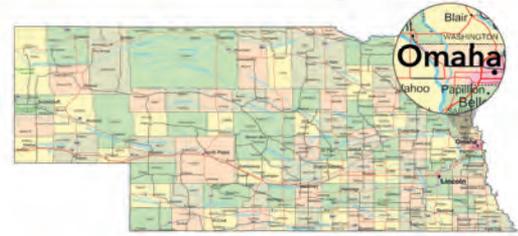




# Omaha, NE



Omaha, Nebraska, was founded in 1854 along the western bank of the Missouri River. The city was named for the Omaha tribe of Native Americans, who reside in northeastern Nebraska and western Iowa. Omaha means "those going against the wind or current."

Located in the historic Union Station, the Durham Western Heritage Museum exhibits artifacts related to the history and development of the nation's western regions, with permanent exhibits highlighting the history of Omaha and its surrounding areas. The Joslyn Castle is a 35-room Scottish Baronial mansion built in 1903 and is an Omaha Landmark Historic Structure on the National Register of Historic Places. The Joslyn Art Museum is internationally recognized for its collection of artists and explorers of the American West and also has collections that feature American Indian cultures and Plains Chiefs, art of the ancient world, European and American painting, modern and contemporary art, and photography. The Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts supports contemporary artists of exceptional talent.

The United States Naval Museum is located in Freedom Park along the Missouri River and is home to the USS Marlin SST-2, USS Hazard AM-240 and a complete collection of USN weapons and equipment.

Other museums include the Omaha Children's Museum; El Museo Latino, which features Latino and Hispanic art and history; and the Great Plains Black History Museum.

The city displays a large collection of public art including murals and sculptures at the Spirit of Nebraska's Wilderness and Pioneer Courage Parks, CenturyLink Center Omaha, and the Gene Leahy Pedestrian mall.

Performing arts venues in Omaha include the Orpheum Theater, which is known for Opera Omaha, Ballet Nebraska, Broadway, Jazz, blues, dance, comedy, family, and popular entertainment; and the Holland Center, which is home to the Omaha Symphony Orchestra.

The Omaha Community Playhouse offers original stage productions year-round in its mainstage and black box theaters. The John Beasley Theater highlights live productions written by or featuring African-American characters. The Blue Barn Theater is known for its innovative productions. The Rose Blumkin Performing Arts Center is home to the Omaha Theater Company and provides theater, dance, arts education, and performances for children and families.

## NEIGHBORHOODS

The Old Market neighborhood is a multi-block collection of renovated brick warehouses and quaint storefronts, which are now home to restaurants, art galleries, shops, and loft-style residential buildings of apartments and condominiums.

The Field Club Historic District was developed in the late 19th century as a well-to-do suburb. The oldest homes were constructed in a large Queen Anne style, but Colonial and Tudor styles are also available. The Country Club Historic District is a planned residential community with single-family brick homes built in the early 20th century period-revival style. Other homes in the community were built in various Tudor styles, but some Colonial and English L-shaped styles are also available. Single-family homes on tree-lined lots range from modest to extravagant in Dundee-Memorial Park, where Colonial, Georgian, and Tudor housing styles are popular. Apartments, duplexes, and row houses reflect Italian Renaissance, Prairie School, and Spanish Colonial styles.

Omaha has experienced new development in established areas of the city. Akarben Village features brick and stucco homes and upscale apartments and condominiums, and Midtown Crossing offers mid-rise condominiums and apartments. New subdivisions are under construction in the city's west side, which also contains existing neighborhoods built around Zorinsky Lake in the 1980s and 1990s.

## PARKS AND RECREATION

Omaha's 220 parks offer 120 miles of recreational trails, 8 municipal golf courses, 18 pools, 8 spraygrounds, 15 community centers, 221 tennis courts, 8 pick-leball courts, a nature center, an ice rink, and a trap and skeet range.

Heartland of America Park features a lake, a fountain with a 320-foot water jet and light show, Lewis & Clark Interpretive exhibits, and the WWII and Airborne Memorial Sculptures. The adjacent Gene Leahy Mall has a lagoon and waterfalls, walking paths, gardens, playground, horseshoe pits, an amphitheater, and sculpture.

The 50-acre Hanscom Park is home to a popular swimming and recreation area, as well as indoor tennis courts. Adjacent to the park, the Gerald R. Ford Birth Site and Gardens commemorates the birthplace of our 38th president.

Zorinsky Lake Park and Recreation Area has a large lake for boating and fishing; playgrounds; paved trails for biking, walking, and running; a football field; 5 baseball fields; and 3 soccer fields.

The Henry Doorly Zoo, located in Riverview Park, features the world's largest indoor tropical rainforest and the world's largest geodesic enclosed arid desert, as well as an aquarium, IMAX Theater, and many conservation programs.

The Lauritzen Gardens-Omaha Botanical Gardens is a 100-acre site that features a rose garden, Victorian garden, children's garden, and arboretum.

Professional sports teams include and Omaha Beef (arena football) and the Omaha Storm Chasers (baseball) in nearby Papillion, NE. The Aksarben Stock Show & Rodeo is part of a 4-day western festival held annually in September.

## EDUCATION

Omaha Public Schools educates 46,000 students in the public school system, which includes 63 elementary schools, 12 middle schools, and 8 high schools. Magnet programs are available for students at each level.

University of Nebraska Omaha is a public research university with undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral degree programs. Both the University of Nebraska Medical Center and Creighton University, a private university, have medical, nursing, pharmacy, dentistry, and allied health schools in addition to undergraduate and graduate degree programs. Nebraska Methodist College of Nursing and Allied Health and Clarkson College are private universities that offers degree programs in health sciences. The College of St. Mary and Grace University, both private universities, award undergraduate and graduate degrees.

Metropolitan Community College offers certificates and associate degrees in a variety of fields. Creative Center is a college specializing in graphic design, and ITT Technical Institute offers career-oriented degrees.

## HEALTH CARE

Omaha is served by the following health care facilities:

- Boys Town National Research Hospital: 31 licensed pediatric beds
- CHI Creighton University Medical Center-Bergan Mercy: 400 licensed beds
- University Campus of CHI Health Creighton University Medical Center-Bergan Mercy: 334 licensed beds
- CHI Health Immanuel: 356 licensed beds
- CHI Health Lakeside: 157 licensed beds
- Children's Hospital & Medical Center: 145 licensed pediatric beds
- Douglas County Community Mental Health Center: 16 licensed psychiatric beds
- Lasting Hope Recovery Center: 64 licensed beds
- Methodist Hospital: 423 licensed beds
- Methodist Women's Hospital: 114 licensed beds
- Midwest Surgical Hospital: 19 licensed beds
- Nebraska Orthopaedic Hospital: 24 licensed beds
- Nebraska Spine Hospital: 34 licensed beds
- Select Specialty Hospital: 352 licensed long-term acute care beds
- The Nebraska Medicine: 621 licensed beds
- Omaha VA Medical Center: 100 beds

## CITY STATS

2014

City Population	442,316
Metropolitan Statistical Area Population	904,421
Per Capita Personal Income, Omaha-Council Bluffs, NE, MSA	\$48,821